

Carl Beiswinger House
18 Westside
Wallace
Shoshone County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-94

HABS
ID,
40-WAL,
12-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, CA 94102

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

HABS
ID,
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12-

STATE Idaho	COUNTY Shoshone	TOWN OR VICINITY City of Wallace
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Carl Beiswinger House		HABS NO. ID-94
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 18 Westside, Wallace, Idaho (Legal: NE First Addn. Block 6 N.½ Lot 2)		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Circa 1920 (see supplement)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) See supplement		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) See supplement		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) See supplement		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE See supplement		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) See supplement		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES See supplement		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Condition good, currently a rental		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE House is scheduled to be torn down in 1988 to make way for a motel-restaurant-gift shop complex		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Natl. Register of Historic Places, Safeco Title Co., Shoshone County Assessor's Office, Sanborn Fire Maps, Barnard-Stockbridge Photo Collection, Harry Olson, Richard Magnuson, Wallace Public Library, U.S. Census Bureau		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Michael J. Green, Depot Productions, Wallace, Idaho		DATE May 1988

Carl Beiswinger House
(18 Westside)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Carl Beiswinger House at 18 Westside is a compatible element of the Wallace Historic District and is located in a residential area containing homes constructed between 1910 and 1920.

The City of Wallace was first settled in 1884. It is located along the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and at the mouth of three side creeks and gulches amid North Idaho's steep Panhandle. The founding of the town followed discovery of fabulous lead-silver deposits in the surrounding mountains. As mining activity quickly grew, so did the town. By 1887 the population was 500, which grew to 2,816 by 1920 (U.S. Census Bureau).

The town flourished from mining activities, and Wallace became known as the Silver Capital of the World because more silver has been extracted from the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, with Wallace as the hub, than any place on earth.

Much of the town was located on a cedar swamp, which was drained as growth occurred. The west end of town containing this house was drained and developed last. Northern Pacific Railway first owned this land in west Wallace. NP leased to private individuals this land on which was built many homes. NP deeded the land to the homeowners in a period from 1920 to 1925. This addition to the town is known as the NP First Addition.

Dating exact construction of most of the houses is difficult because the first deeding of the property occurred after the homes were built. The Minnesota State Historical Society, Archives Manuscripts Division, which possesses defunct NP's records, could not locate copies of the original leases. Early fire maps and photographs show no homes built in that area prior to 1910. Most of the homes, then, were constructed from 1910-1920.

These dates were confirmed by Harry Olson, who has lived in west Wallace since 1922. He said in an interview most of the houses in west Wallace were already constructed when he moved there in 1922. He was 10 years old at the time.

Olson remembers nothing distinctive about west Wallace other than it being an ordinary residential part of town. Its residents were a mixture of business and working people, including miners, druggist, county commissioner and even "bootleggers" The streets

were paved in the addition about 1920, Olson said. A flood in 1933 caused considerable damage to the streets and homes, he said.

As mining activity in the district began to decline in the 1970s and 1980s, so did the number of jobs and demand for homes. The 1988 population of Wallace was 1,460 (source: Association of Idaho Cities). The character of some homes changed as they went from owner-occupied to rentals. Some deteriorated from lack of care. (Some had been rentals for most of their existence.

Because of the fast growth of the town in a short time span, Wallace contains a unique homogenous blend of architecture, which led to first a few buildings, then the downtown district, then the entire core of town listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mining towns tend to have a transient population, and many homes have had numerous owners as a result. This house has had three primary residents who owned the house from 15 to 24 years each,

This house is located on a single lot shared by the house to the immediate south at 22 Westside. As Harry Olson remembers the house was moved to the north half of the lot. He said the house could have been moved from three blocks away to make way for the current Catholic Church, which he said was built about 1926. A 1927 city fire map shows the house on the site by 1927. The first recorded deed transfer of the lot was from Carl Beiswinger to his wife Annie Beiswinger.

Proceedings from probate court on Jan. 14, 1947, show the north half lot containing this house belonged to the estate of Annie Laurie Beiswinger, and the south half lot and house to Carl Beiswinger. On March 11, 1947, Esther Reiman, administrator of Annie Beiswinger's estate, deeded the house to Theodore Vander Weyst. Weyst deeded the house to Thomas and Ruth Wilks on June 3, 1949. Olson said Wilks was a carpenter who completely remodeled the interior and added a drive in garage in the basement and a carport. On Aug. 9, 1971 (recorded date), Wilks deeded the house to Keith E. and Mary Kellogg. County records show the house was sold in August 1971 for \$13,000. Olson said Kellogg did further interior remodeling. The Kelloggs deeded the house to Billy and Rose Jones on Oct. 11, 1973 (recorded date), and they have owned the house ever since. County records show the actual sales date was August 1972, and the price was \$14,000. The Jones currently reside in Boise and rent out the house. Olson said Jones added the current aluminum siding about 1962. Exact dates of the other remodeling is unknown.

A 1927 map and diagram shows the house and its front and back porches had shingle roofs. A 1952 county diagram shows a different front and back porch. A 1973 county diagram shows still a different back porch and a framed garage leading to the basement. A 1985 diagram shows the back porch has been enclosed with the house, and a carport added to the back of the garage. A coal furnace also was replaced with a forced-air gas furnace. Exact dates of these alterations are unknown.

EXTERIOR FEATURES

The house is one story and rectangular. It has a concrete foundation painted brown. Siding is 100 percent aluminum that is tan while the gable ends and trim are brown. The house has a gable roof, boxed eaves and brown corrugated-metal roofing. A brick chimney extends from the roof crest near the middle of the house.

The front porch is a concrete pad and three round steel posts supporting a shed roof, which covers nearly the entire facade. The concrete porch has five steps from the north side leading to the front door, which has an aluminum storm door. From the ground at the west rear of the house, wood steps from the north make a quarter turn to the back door and enclosed porch. The porch has a gable roof. A coal-chute door is located in the porch foundation on its west wall. The garage that extends from under the house also has a gable roof. The car port attached to the garage is supported by round steel posts, and it has a gable roof with corrugated fiberglass roofing.

The windows are a combination of fixed windows and double-hung sash 1/1. All windows have aluminum storm windows. The foundation contains windows that are wood frame with three lights each. These windows are located on the north and south sides, and provide daylight to the basement.

INTERIOR FEATURES

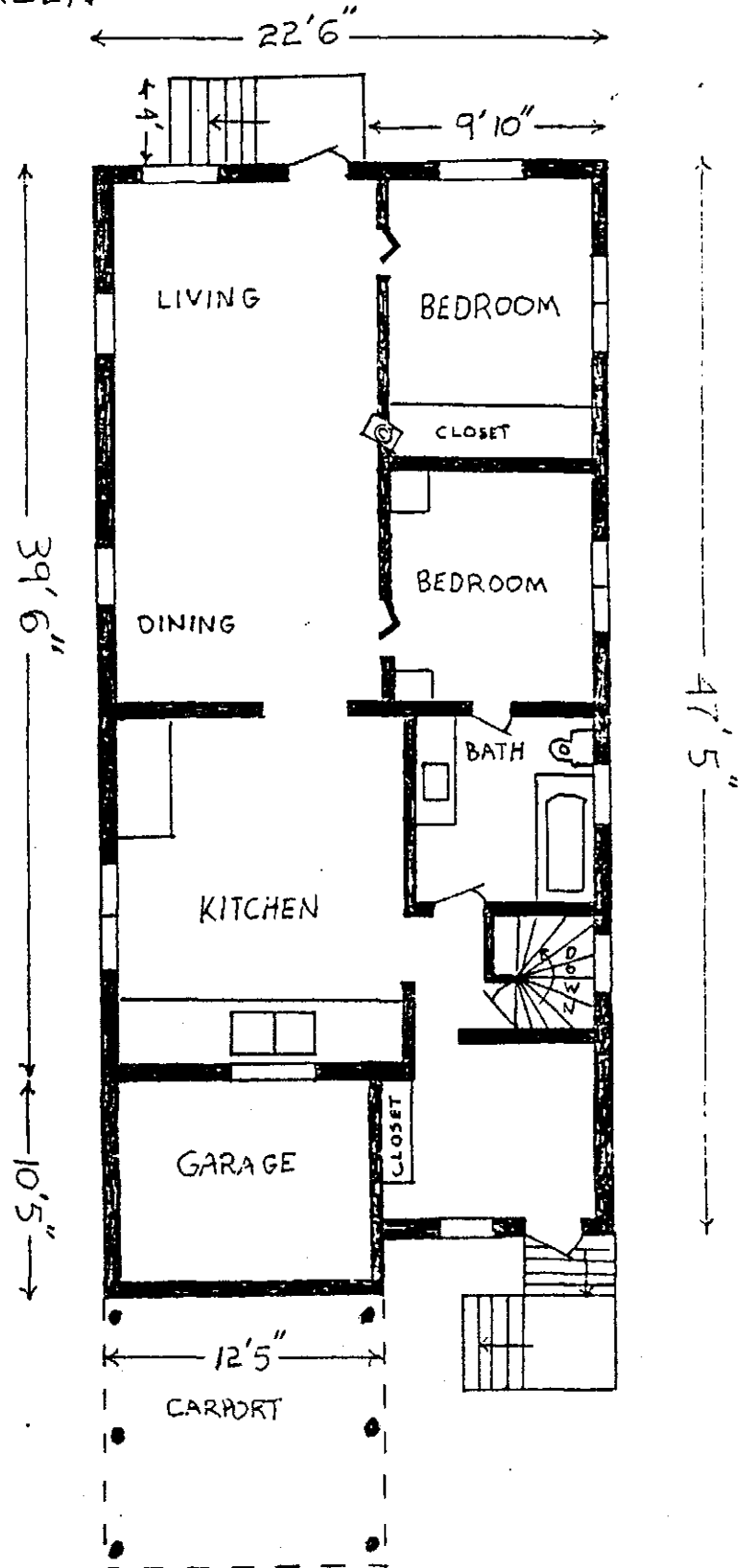
Covering the interior walls are a combination of paneling and painted or wallpapered sheetrock. On the floors are either linoleum or carpeting, although one bedroom is still softwood floor only.

The kitchen has softwood cabinets and a double porcelain sink.

An enclosed stairway leads to the full basement, which has a concrete floor. The basement is open with the exception of a partially finished room in the southeast corner. A gas furnace and the base of a brick chimney also are located in the basement.

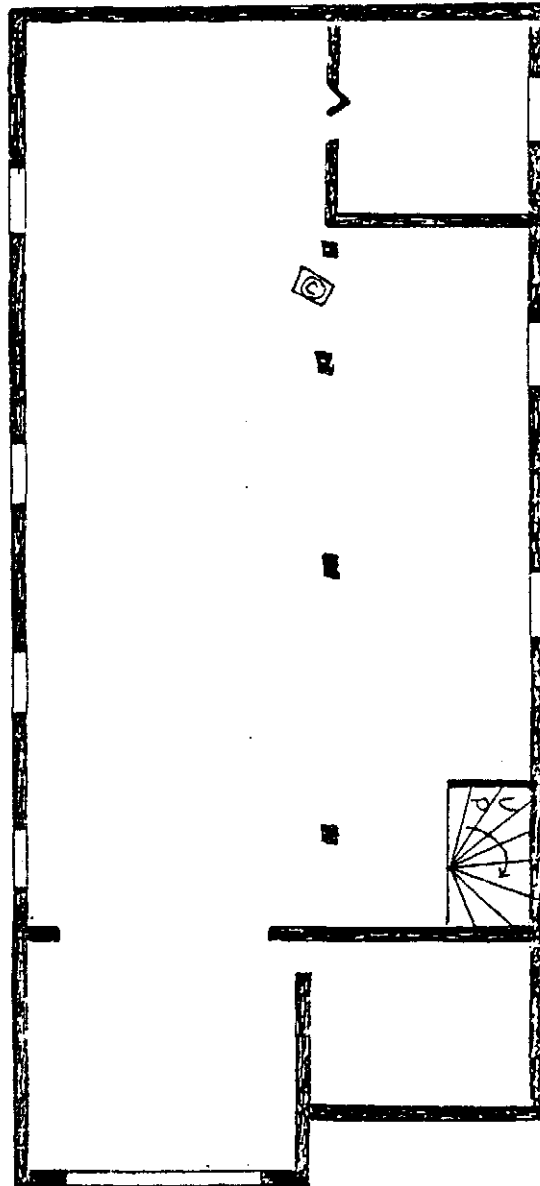
SCALE $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'$

M.J. GREEN



SCALE $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'$

M.J. GREEN



BASEMENT

